

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 173545

66

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66617

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:DMACK

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:DMACK

----- 073944

O 252009Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL STUTTGART IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 173545

EXDIS FOR ELG

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 173545 SENT USCINCEUR DATED JULY 23.

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 173545

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT LISBON 4129 ACTION SECSTATE INFO NATO 22 JUL 75

QUOTE

S E C R E T LISBON 4129

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: COMMUNIST TAKEOVER

1. MANUEL SA MACHADO, SOARES'S FORMER CHIEF OXCABINET, ASKED
TO SEE ME URGENTLY TONIGHT. WHEN HE ARRIVED HE SAID HE HAD JUST
COME FROM SOARES WHO WISHED TO PASS FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE
TOME.

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 173545

2. SOARES HAD INFORMATION THAT COMMUNISTS AND PRO-COMMUNIST
ELEMENTS WERE PLANNING A POWER PLAY. MODERATE CIVILIANS AND
MILITARY WOULD BE ARRESTED. NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ANNOUNCED.
SO WOULD A NEW PARTY OF "NATIONAL UNITY" CONSISTING OF PCP, UDP,

FSP AND POSSIBLY OTHER LEFTIST SPLINTER GROUPS. SOARES DID NOT KNOW IF ANY OPPOSITION WOULD BE ALLOWED.

3. SOARES ALSO HAD INFORMATION THAT COSTA GOMES HAD DECIDED TO JOIN THE PLOTTERS. HE, SOARES, HAD TALKED TO SOMEONE WHO HAD BEEN SHOWN "AN AMERICAN INVASION PLAN" BY COSTA GOMES. THIS SOURCE SAID PLAN WAS BEING SHOWN TO OTHERS BY COSTA GOMES. (FYI ONE PPD DEPUTY TOLD US COSTA GOMES MADE REFERENCE TO AMERICAN INVASION MANEUVERS TO PPD SYG.) SOARES FELT THAT PLAN WOULD BE PUBLISHED AT AN APPROPRIATE MOMENT IN ORDER TO FACILITATE COMMUNIST MOVE.

4. SA MACHADO SAID SOARES HAD DECIDED TO FIGHT UNTIL THE END. LAST NIGHT HE WAS AWAKENED BY HIS SECURITY GUARD AT 4:00 A.M. AND MOVED TO A DIFFERENT RESIDENCE. HENCEFORTH HE WOULD CHANGE HIS RESIDENCE EVERY NIGHT. MELO ANTUNES IS ALREADY DOING THIS. AFTER POWER PLAY, SOARES AND HIS SUPPORTERS INTEND TO GO UNDERGROUND IN THE NORTH AND IN THE AZORES AND TRY TO PROMOTE A GENERAL UPRISING. THEY HAD NO IDEA ON TIMING OF COMMUNIST MOVE BUT THOUGHT IT COULD COME ANY DAY.

5. SOARES WANTED TO KNOW FROM ME (1) WHETHER USG HAD ANY NAVAL VESSELS IN IMMEDIATE AREA OR NEAR AZORES AND (2) WHETHER USG WOULD SUPPORT CLANDESTINE OPPOSITION ACTIVITY BY SOCIALISTS AND OTHERS IN EVENT OF COMMUNIST COUP. I TOLD SA MACHADO TO TELL SOARES THAT THERE WERE NO NAVAL SHIPS IN THIS AREA TO MY KNOWLEDGE, BUT I WOULD SPEAK WITH NAVAL ATTACHE TOMORROW AND LET HIM KNOW IF I WAS WRONG. CERTAINLY THERE WAS NO US INVASION PLAN. AS FAR AS USG SUPPORT FOR CLANDESTINE ACTIVITIES IS CONCERNED, THIS WOULD ENTAIL A MAJOR POLICY DECISION. IF COMMUNISTS TOOK OVER THERE WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE A POLCY REVIEW, BUT I WAS NOT ABLE AT THIS TIME TO PREDICT THE OUTCOME.

6. SA MACHADO SEEMED SATISFIED WITH THESE REPLIES AND SAID SOARES WAS TAKING SIMILAR SOUNDINGS AMONG HIS EUROPEAN FRIENDS. UK AMBASSADOR TOLD ME LATER SOARES IS SEEING HIM TONIGHT.

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 173545

7. COMMENT: SOARES' S POLITICAL MOODS VARY GREATLY AND HE OFTEN IS ALARMIST, BUT HE IS ALSO WELL INFORMED AND DOES HAVE KEEN OVERALL POLITICAL SENSE. MOREOVER, WITH MODERATES POSING SERIOUS THREAT TO PRIME MINISTER IN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, COMMUNISTS COULD BE WORRIED ENOUGH TO TRY POWER PLAY. HENCE SOARES'S WARNING CANNOT BE DISMISED LIGHTLY.

8. SOARES HAS NEVER TRUSTED COSTA GOMES, BUT I TOO AM SKEPTICAL OF COSTA GOMES, AND FIND IT WITHIN REALM OF CREDIBILITY THAT HE MAY HAVE DECIDED TO CAST HIS LOT WITH GONCALVES AND COMMUNISTS.
CARLUCCI

UNQUOTE. KISSINGER UNQUOTE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE173545
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S-O:DMACK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 XGDS-4
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750257-0851
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197507106/baaaaqbd.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971022
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PINT, PO, PINT, (SOARES, MARIO)
To: STUTTGART
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006